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Letters To the Editor

Tourists to Russia

Editor, The Wall Street Journal:

Mr. Faltermayer's recent article heralding the good tidings that the Kremlin is expecting about 20,000 American tourists this year with plenty of dollars from the "bloody capitalists," points up another flop for our State Department planners of the delegation exchanges. In this uneven project we are again the losers and the Soviets are the gainers.

In 1959 about 5,000 Americans visited the Soviet Union, but no rank and file Soviet citizens were allowed to come here. Only top-ranking Communists, the hard core Stalinists or Khrushchevites, were sent to look us over. In 1960 about 12,000 Americans spent their dollars in the Stalin-Khrushchev paradise, but only 60 Soviet citizens came here as tourists.

As in all other relations with the Soviet regime, the tourist business is another one-way street for us. It could have been most valuable to us to have insisted that just as our people going to Russia are ordinary citizens, so must we receive from Russia only plain Ivans and Stepans. It would have helped stir the discontent within the Soviet empire for those exploited, deceived and oppressed people to find the superiority of our system of government and our way of life.

Regarding Mr. Faltermayer's reference to the Soviet needing badly "currency to pay for imports of machinery needed under the U.S.S.R.'s ambitious plan to boost industrial production by 80% during the seven-year period ending in 1965," I might assure you that the Soviet regime does not need our tourist dollars. It has no lack of hundreds of millions of dollars to throw around to various under-developed countries as to our dear neighbor, Castro, in Cuba; it has no shortage of gold to spend for the greatest espionage system in the world.

If members of the Congress know what is good for our country, they should declare immediately that they will refuse to appropriate funds for the delegation exchanges, prohibit the exchange of scientists and others whose purpose in coming here is not to give us anything they may have but to steal from us what we have.

J. ANTHONY MARCUS

New York City

Let's Be Tough

Editor, The Wall Street Journal:

Your editorial, "Reflections on an Incident" (May 17) on the summit is in line with the thinking of the people I come in contact with.

Why should the people of the U.S. grovel before a crude and sanctimonious Khrushchev? We should not even have withdrawn our planes from continuing intelligence flights over Russia. Mr. Khrushchev has made these flights necessary.

Let's be tough and call his bluff.

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Berkeley, Calif.

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